

L. Tappan - Dec 31, 1844
Rev. A. A. Phelps,
Boston

New York, Dec. 31/44.

Dear Brother,

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Enclosed is another letter from Mr Bingham with a memo. of my reply. The letter & his article had best be kept together. You will recollect to send the article on in due season with such remarks as you see fit. Is it necessary to do anything more in the matter?

Benedict says he can't print the paper till next week. It is a pity to have it put off so long. We shall publish 5000. If you have a few hundreds of choice names to whom you wish it sent you had best forward them, especially those at the South. We ought to be more select in sending out these papers. Cast not your pearls &c.

A lawyer by the name of John Mason of Baltimore called on me today with 3 letters from Mr Tomy, written just before his sentence and after Allen Leavitt & Chaplin had visited Mr T. Mr T. writes me a long friendly letter, about many things, & alludes to a former abusive letter he had written to me. He says he misunderstood me, somewhat, perhaps, and intimates that you thought my letter was ill-advised or improper. Have you seen my letter to Mr. T. which made him so angry & occasioned him to address me as he did? It conveyed to him the reasons entertained in Boston & this city for not carrying his cause up to the Sup. Court, & my own view of his state of mind, heart &c., with earnest & friendly exhortation &c. If any one should write me such a letter anger would be the last emotion it would occasion. Mr T. threatened to send the letter to Boston, & I do not know but he did. He evinced a savage temper in the matter. I wrote him kindly after words, & he now writes in a very friendly manner.

Mr T. says that Mason & others are interesting themselves to get him pardoned. At first they wanted him to make concessions he deemed improper, but afterwards merely to petition for a pardon. Mr T. wants me to pay him (Mason) over the money in my hands & to raise more, not for fees, but travelling expenses, &c. I had previously written to Dr Ide about paying the money over for Mrs Tomy. Mr T. thinks his counsel acted poorly. He seems to have lost confidence in them & wishes to have no more to do with them. He is evidently enamored with Mason, who thinks as T. does about the counsel.

Now I happen to know Mason. He is a younger brother of Cyrus Mason, d.d. of this city - was formerly a preacher, &c. &c. I have no confidence in him & do not think it safe to pay him any money. I will write to Dr Ide & advise with him. The Baltimoreans feel quite uneasy, it is evident, about having a Massachusetts clergyman in their State prison.

Mr Ordway Senior called on me with 4 letters. Nothing occurred to him that I could do for his son. There is a prejudice against both father & son on the minds of Boston merchants. I thought the young man had more capacity & common sense than he appears to have evinced. I hope he will escape from his legal difficulties. Mr Smith of Brooklyn, his counsel, is well qualified to defend him.

Very truly yours,

Lewis Tappan

